

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method to protect a transgene from silencing, comprising concurrently introducing the transgene and wherein an insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced concurrently with the transgene into an animal or a plant, organs of an animal or a plant, or cells derived from an animal or a plant.

2. (Original) The method to protect a transgene from silencing according to Claim 1, wherein the transgene is introduced using a viral vector.

3. (Original) The method to protect a transgene from silencing according to Claim 2, wherein said viral vector is a lentiviral vector or a retroviral vector.

4. (Previously Presented) The method to protect a transgene from silencing according to Claim 1, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.

5. (Currently Amended) A method for introducing a gene, ~~wherein comprising concurrently introducing the transgene and an insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene into an animal or a plant, organs of an animal or a plant, or cells derived from an animal or a plant~~ an insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced concurrently with a transgene so as to protect the transgene from silencing.

6. (Original) The method for introducing a gene according to Claim 5, wherein gene transfer is performed using a viral vector.

7. (Original) The method for introducing a gene according to Claim 6, wherein said viral vector is a lentiviral vector or a retroviral vector.

8. (Previously Presented) The method for introducing a gene according to Claim 5, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.

9. (Withdrawn) A method for production of a vector, wherein an insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced into the vector so as to protect the vector from silencing.

10. (Withdrawn) The method for production of a vector according to Claim 9, wherein said vector is a viral vector.

11. (Withdrawn) The method for production of a vector according to Claim 9, wherein said vector is a lentiviral vector or a retroviral vector.

12. (Withdrawn) The method for production of a vector according to Claim 9, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.

13. (Withdrawn) A vector for introducing a transgene comprising an insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene so as to protect the transgene from silencing.

14. (Withdrawn) The vector according to Claim 13, wherein said vector is a viral vector.

15. (Withdrawn) The vector according to Claim 13, wherein said vector is a lentiviral vector or a retroviral vector.

16. (Withdrawn) The vector according to Claim 13, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.

17. (Previously Presented) The method to protect a transgene from silencing according to Claim 2, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.

18. (Previously Presented) The method to protect a transgene from silencing according to Claim 3, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.

19. (Previously Presented) The method for introducing a gene according to Claim 6, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.

20. (Previously Presented) The method for introducing a gene according to Claim 7, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.

21. (Withdrawn) The method for production of a vector according to Claim 10, wherein said vector is a lentiviral vector or a retroviral vector.

22. (Withdrawn) The method for production of a vector according to Claim 10, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.

23. (Withdrawn) The method for production of a vector according to Claim 11, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.

24. (Withdrawn) The vector according to Claim 14, wherein said vector is a lentiviral vector or a retroviral vector.

25. (Withdrawn) The vector according to Claim 14, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.

26. (Withdrawn) The vector according to Claim 15, wherein said insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene is introduced in anti-sense orientation.

27. (New) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the transgene and the insulator from sea urchin arylsulfatase gene are concurrently introduced into an animal, organs of an animal, or cells derived from an animal.

28. (New) The method according to Claim 27, wherein the animal is a human.